

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. New claims 11-12 have been added to more particularly define the invention. Applicants have made minor modifications to claims 1-7 in order to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 112 thus placing these claims in condition for immediate allowance. Further, Applicants have rewritten claims 9 and 10 in independent form in order to overcome the objections under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c). Applicants also have attempted to strike the "dash" lines next to the elements in claims 1 and 7 consistent with the MPEP requirements but the "dash" lines align with the mid-level "stricken" sign thus making it almost impossible to see that the "dash" lines have been stricken. Regarding the Specification, Applicants have made minor changes to the Specification to address an unintentional typographical error. Claim 8 stands rejected on prior art grounds but Applicants have changed the dependency of claim 8 in order to eliminate the prior art rejection.

I. The Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, First and Second Paragraphs and Claim Objections Under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c)

In response to the 35 U.S.C., Section 112, First Paragraph and Second Paragraph rejections, Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 consistent with the Examiner's comments and the Specification. (See above).

In response to the 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) objections, Applicants have amended claims 9 and 10 by rewriting these "use" claims in independent form.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw these objections and rejections.

II. Formal Matters and Conclusions

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-12, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

Please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 50-1114.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8 June 2007



Fredric J. Zimmerman
Registration No. 48, 747

Department of the Navy
Office of Counsel
3824 Strauss Ave., Suite 103
Indian Head, MD 20640-5152
(301) 744-5603